



NEW JERSEY
WEEKLY CROP WEATHER

New Jersey
Agricultural Statistics Service

In Cooperation With:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Agricultural Marketing Service
U.S. Department of Commerce/N.O.A.A.
Rutgers University

NOAA WEATHER RADIO STATIONS

Allentown
WXL-39 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.
Atlantic City
KHB-38 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.
New York City
KWO-35 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 160.55 Megahertz.
Philadelphia
KIH-28 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.475 Megahertz.

NEW JERSEY AUCTIONS

Vineland
Phone: (856)691-0721
Sales 10:00AM Daily except Sunday.
Landisville
Phone: (856)697-2273
Direct Sales Daily
Swedesboro
Phone: (856)476-0313
Hightstown
Phone: (609)448-0193
Auction Sales Mon-Wed-Fri-7pm

Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued by Rutgers University New Brunswick NJ
8 am EDT Tuesday, September 6, 2005

Rainfall amounts, none through Wednesday.

Winds for spraying, northeast 5 to 10 mph today, light and variable tonight, southwest 5 mph Wednesday.

Relative humidity in percent, 35 to 45 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 35 to 45 Wednesday.

Dew points, mid to upper 50s through Wednesday.

Drying conditions, very good today and Wednesday.

Frost freeze or dew, moderate dew tonight and again Wednesday night.

Percent of possible sunshine, 90 today, 90 Wednesday.

There is a near zero percent probability of precipitation during the 12 hour period beginning at 8 am and ending at 8 pm that could adversely affect the performance of pesticides that require a rain free period after application.

Conditions do appear favorable for the occurrence of cranberry scald today and again Wednesday.

Hay cutting will see very good conditions for the next several days with low humidity and no rain.

Soil moisture continues very short in most locations. There is little threat of rain for the remainder of the week and therefore the need for irrigation will remain high.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period September 13, 2005, through September 19, 2005, is calling for temperatures to average above normal and precipitation to total below normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 9/05/05

Temperatures averaged much above normal, averaging 72 degrees north, 75 degrees central, and 76 degrees south. Extremes were 92 degrees at New Brunswick on September 1, 2005, and 52 degrees at Andover on September 5, 2005.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.18 inches north, 0.12 inches central, and 0.32 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 0.93 inches at South Harrison on August 29, 2005, through August 30, 2005.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 67 percent north, 50 percent central, and 41 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 71 degrees north, 74 degrees central, and 75 degrees south.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending 8 am Monday, September 5, 2005

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures				Growing Degree Days		Soil Moisture
	Last Week	Since March 1		Last Week				1/		
		Total	Dept.*	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*	Total	Dept.*	
- Inches -										

*Departure from normal.
1/ Growing degree days since March 1, 2005, total and departure from normal or long term average.
2/ Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.

Topsoil Moisture Needs Rain

Outdoor activities included harvesting corn silage, cutting and baling hay, spraying, irrigating, picking peaches, harvesting vegetables, and planting fall vegetables. Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, September 4, 2005, were 6.4. Topsoil moisture was rated 60% very short, 35% short, and 5% adequate. Temperatures were above normal during the week. Third cutting of hay continued. Harvest of cantaloup, eggplant, snap beans, cucumbers, pepper, squash, sweet corn, and tomatoes continued in the state. Soybean was rated in mostly good condition. Aphids leaf disease was reported in some soybean fields in the central district. Disease problems continued to be a problem in some pumpkin fields across the state. Potato harvest continued. Vegetables rated in mostly good condition. Peach harvest continued across the state and was rated in good condition. Pasture was rated in mostly fair condition. In the north and central districts, livestock producers were providing supplemental feeding due to inadequate pasture condition.

Jersey Fresh Availability for September 6, 2005

Arugula & Cilantro - Harvesting fair to good quality in fair to increasing volume with the cooler temperatures.

Baby Arugula & Baby Spinach - Harvesting in good quality and volume.

Basil - Harvesting in good quantity and quality until frost.

Beets - Harvesting in good quantity and quality.

Cabbage - Harvesting in good quantity and quality.

Cantaloupes - Harvesting good quality product in light to decreasing quantity. Finishing up.

Collards & Kale - Harvesting in good quantity and quality.

Cucumbers & Pickles (Kirby cucumbers) - Harvesting both in good quantity and quality.

Dandelions - Spring planted Pasquale variety available in good quantity and quality.

Dill - Harvesting Dill in fair to good quality in light to increasing quantity with the cooler temperatures.

Eggplant - Harvesting Italian and Asian varieties in good quantity and great quality. The fall brings out the best in this vegetable.

Escarole/Endive - Harvesting a light volume of fair to good quality product though the fall crop will be ready to begin harvesting by next week.

Greens - Good quality and quantities harvested of Kholrabi, Mustard, and Swiss Chard.

Green Onions & Leeks - Spring planted varieties are available in good quality and quantity.

Lettuces - Growers expecting to begin harvesting some Boston by the end of the week. It will be another week before Red & Green Leaf is ready.

Nectarines - The Fantasia variety is being harvested in decreasing volume as the Red Gold variety is being picked in good to decreasing volume. Good size, flavor, and finish are expected.

Okra - Harvesting in good to decreasing quantity and good quality. Finishing up in a few weeks.

Parsley - Harvesting in good quantity and quality.

Peaches - As usual in September, half of our peaches are still in the orchard, waiting to be picked. The Cresthaven variety peaches are finishing up as the Jersey Queen varieties are being harvested in good volume through this week. The Encore and Laurol varieties are just starting to be harvested and will be in volume next week. Encore is our most heavily

planted peach variety. The white variety Lady Nancy is finishing up as Snow Giant comes into volume. Fruit quality and flavor are all very good. Fruit size is excellent this year due to a lighter fruit set, aggressive thinning, and recent fruit growth. We'll have a volume of good quality peaches until mid-September.

Peppers - Harvesting in good quantity and quality. We also have an excellent assortment of great quality hot peppers available. It's been a very good growing season for hot peppers.

Squash - Harvesting good quality Yellow and Zucchini in good quantities. Also harvesting a fair to good volume of good quality Acorn & Spaghetti squashes. Harvesting a good volume of good quality Butternut.

Sweet Corn - Harvesting in good quantity and quality. Good wholesale availability until at least next week. Quantity and quality varies after that due to fall insect pressures.

Tomatoes & Plum Tomatoes - A recent short term supply shortage of round tomatoes was due to the effect of prolonged high heat upon the developing blossoms. Harvesting rounds in fair to increasing quantity and good quality. Harvesting plums in good quantity and quality.

White Potatoes - Harvesting a good volume of the redskin variety Norland and Superior round variety. There will be a large crop of good quality potatoes this year. Source your New Jersey white potatoes in their distinctive "Jersey Fresh" bags. A number of chain stores have made large displays of these in the past and they've sold quite well.

Jersey Fresh Forecast

Broccoli - Should begin harvesting around the third week of September in Central Jersey.

Brussel Sprouts - Should begin harvesting in Central Jersey by the second week of October.

Cauliflower - Should begin harvesting by the beginning of October in Central Jersey.

Cranberries - The main harvest of fresh market dry harvested berries should begin in early October though the increasing demand for white cranberries will see some berries beginning to be harvested about the third week of September.

Pumpkins - Downy mildew set in early this year in these fields due to another cool and wet spring. Rutgers extension specialists are looking to do increased disease studies after several poor years in a row for this crop. These will be hard to source in Jersey this season.

Spinach - Growers expecting to harvest by the third week of September.

Sweet Potatoes - Should begin harvesting late next week. It will be another week after that before they're ready for market.